

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 AID-05

EB-07 DHA-02 SCCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-07 /125 W

----- 041400

R 100716Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8123

USMISSION USUN

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 3428

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECOSOC, SHUM

SUBJ: 60TH ECOSOC: VOTE ON RESOLUTIONS RELATING TO DECADE TO
COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

REF: STATE 110990

1. POLCOUNS DISCUSSED REFTEL WITH DFA ASSISTANT SECRETARY
CAMPBELL. GOA HAS INSTRUCTED ITS DELEGATES TO ABSTAIN ON
OMNIBUS RESOLUTION. GOA ALSO WILL PROBABLY ABSTAIN ON SECOND
RESOLUTION CONCERNING GHANA CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, IF SUFFI-
CIENT OPPOSITION TO SECOND RESOLUTION EVIDENCED IN DEBATE,
GOA WILL BE PREPARED TO JOIN OTHERS IN VOTING AGAINST IT.

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2. IN SPITE OF ARGUMENTS PRESENTED REFTEL, CAMPBELL SAID

GOA DECISION TO ABSTAIN ON OMNIBUS RESOLUTION WAS FIRM. WHILE GOA AGREED WITH U.S. THAT THERE WAS GREAT NEED FOR A SPECIFIC BREAK IN THE LINK BETWEEN RESOLUTION 3379 AND THE DECADE, THIS WAS NOT THE PROPER PEG. GOA BELIEVES AFRICAN STATES AND OTHERS HAVE GONE ABOUT AS FAR AS POSSIBLE AT THIS TIME IN AVOIDING ANY REFERENCE TO RESOLUTION 3379. INDEED, IN GOA VIEW, OPERATIVE LANGUAGE IN PARA 3 OF OMNIBUS RESOLUTION GOES A LONG WAY TOWARD NEGATING 3379. OPPOSITION TO OMNIBUS RESOLUTION NOW MIGHT PROVE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE TO LONGER-TERM EFFORTS TO PUT 3379 TO REST.

3. GOA ALSO HAS PROBLEMS WITH OMNIBUS RESOLUTION BECAUSE OF LANGUAGE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA WHICH IS MUCH LESS ACCEPTABLE TO THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT THAN IT WAS TO THE PRECEDING ONE.

4. ON PERSONAL BASIS, CAMPBELL SUGGESTED IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN EASIER TACTICALLY FOR GOA TO FOLLOW FIRM U.S. QTE NO UNQUTE VOTE ON ISSUE THAN IT WAS TO FOLLOW LEAD OF NON-PARTICIPANT TO DISCUSSION.

5. CAMPBELL SAID GOA REPS HAD BEEN AND WOULD REMAIN IN CLOSEST CONTACT WITHUSUN ON ISSUE.
HARGROVE

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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